

BAR HILL NEWS

December 2025 Issue 675



Congratulations to Riley (7yo) who wins this years colouring competition! See other entries throughout this issue. Thank You to everyone who took part.

THIS MONTH: Girlguiding P14, Church P16, School streets P29, Remembrance Day P35, Foster Caring P38, Colouring competition 2nd and 3rd place P43.



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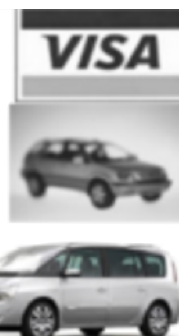
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If you'd like to contact the BHCA then you can either;

- Write to us at **Parish Council Offices, Hanover Close, Bar Hill. CB23 8EH**
- Email the Chair of Trustees at **chair-of-trustees@barhill-ca.org**, or
- Call/ message/ WhatsApp **07814 871752**.

We meet monthly on the second Tuesday at 7:30 pm in the Fox. If you'd like an agenda please get in touch!

Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Association. Anonymous letters will not be published. Names and addresses may be withheld. There is no charge for Articles, What's On, For Sale or Lost and Found. These appear at the Editor's discretion.

All items should be submitted to **bhn-editor@barhill-ca.org**

See **www.barhill-ca.org**

FROM THE EDITOR ...

As we reach the end of another year, I'd like to wish everyone in our community a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year — from the whole editorial team behind the Bar Hill News, and from all the Trustees and Volunteers who work with me as part of the Bar Hill Community Association.



I also want to give a special shout-out to Tracy and Emma, who have taken on the task of wholesaling the Bar Hill News each month. They make sure every issue gets to our amazing team of deliverers who, come rain or shine, get it through the letterbox of every home in the village. A huge thank you to the whole team — we genuinely couldn't do this without you.

With the recent expansion to the village, we'll have fifty new households to deliver to in 2026. A warm welcome to all of them, and to everyone spending their first Christmas here this year. We hope to see you at one of our events soon!

So, what's coming up in 2026? The FIRST LEGO League is now up and running, we're planning further improvements to our parks and green spaces, work on the new Skatepark continues, and the Fete will be returning in 2026. We're also beginning preparations for the village's 60th anniversary in 2027 — and there's even talk of an "open gardens"-style event. Watch this space!

And finally: wishing you all a happy and prosperous 2026. See you in the New Year!

Andy Pellew

BHN Editor / Chair of the BHCA

PS. The deadline for the January issue is 4th

December (Had to get that in!)

~~2025~~
2026

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**Every Monday, 10-12 (unless otherwise listed) in the Octagon (opposite Maple Surgery)
The Hub is for people of all ages as a place to gather & enjoy community!**

1 December	Coffee Stop, Foodbank, Chess, traditional & 5Aside versions	Health & Wellbeing 10.15 - 10.45
8 December		Carers Café Christmas Social 10.00 - 11.30
15 December		Evergreens 10.00 - 11.30
22 December		Meet a Parish Councillor 10.00 - 12.00
29 December		NO COMMUNITY HUB

WHEN: Every Monday 10am – 12pm. Please note that there will be no Hub on 29th December. We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas, and look forward to seeing everyone again on 5th January.

WHERE: The Octagon (opposite Maple Surgery), Bar Hill, CB23 8EH

WHAT: Our vision is to create a fairer and friendlier community, so everyone can thrive and knows where to turn to for warmth, welcome, friendship and support. The Hub is a busy gathering space, providing a warm, comfortable, welcoming space for our entire community. Come along and join us, we look forward to seeing you!

Coffee Stop: Pop in for a coffee, a piece of delicious home-made cake and a chat with friends, old and new!

Foodbank: No need for any vouchers. If you are struggling financially, drop by and let us help you, available between 10am and 11.30am

Citizens Advice: NOTICE: for health reasons, there is no village Citizens Advice service. To book an appointment for face to face, email or telephone advice with the Cambridge office, please use the following contact details

Email: <https://www.cambridgecab.org.uk/get-advice/email-us/>

Phone: 0808 278 7808

Evergreens: a safe space for those with memory loss to enjoy: Conversation, Connection, Celebration. Accompanied by a carer, friend or family member. When: usually 4th Monday of each month, but please note that we will be meeting a week earlier in December. Please see separate entry in Bar Hill News for more information.

Health & Wellbeing: On the 1st & 3rd Monday, take advantage of some exercise guidance from our experienced coach and visiting speakers (starting at 10.15am). There will be no session on 15th December, but we will resume our sessions on 5th January.

Carers Café: On the 2nd Monday of the month, providing support for any carers in the village, even if you are not a patient of Maple Surgery

Meet a Parish Councillor: you can meet one of our Parish Councillors to discuss any issues within our village, between 10am and 12pm on the 4th Monday of the month. Just look for the sign within the Coffee Stop.

Traditional & 5Aside Chess (within the Coffee Stop): A great way to connect and start a conversation with people happy to teach you this wonderful game. Come along and join us for refreshments and a chat!



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LETTERS, NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send your letters & notices to bhn-editor@barhill-ca.org. Thank you!



Bar Hill Indoor Bowls Club

We meet in the school on Friday evenings during term time only from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm with a 1/2 hour break for coffee. We are a very friendly group and we would love to have some new members. It doesn't matter if you have never played before just come along and join us one Friday, the cost is £3 per week but the 1st week is free.

Please note that the last meeting for 2025 will be on Friday 19 December.

If you would like more information please contact me on **01954 204171 / 07847 327709** or barbara.page@live.co.uk

Bar Hill Catholic Mass

Mass will be held in Bar Hill Church at 6pm on Saturdays. Our services are open to all and everyone is very welcome to attend.

If you have any queries please call Bunty Waters **07734 690580**.

Our local parish priest is Father Adrian Gates, from OLEM, Ditton; he is also the Hospital Chaplain - **07842 190882**.

Come & worship - everyone welcome.

Contact Bunty Waters for more info.

Dear Editor,

Next year, I shall be starting The "Mens Table" in The Fox Pub. The first meeting will be at 2pm on THURSDAY 15 JANUARY 2026.

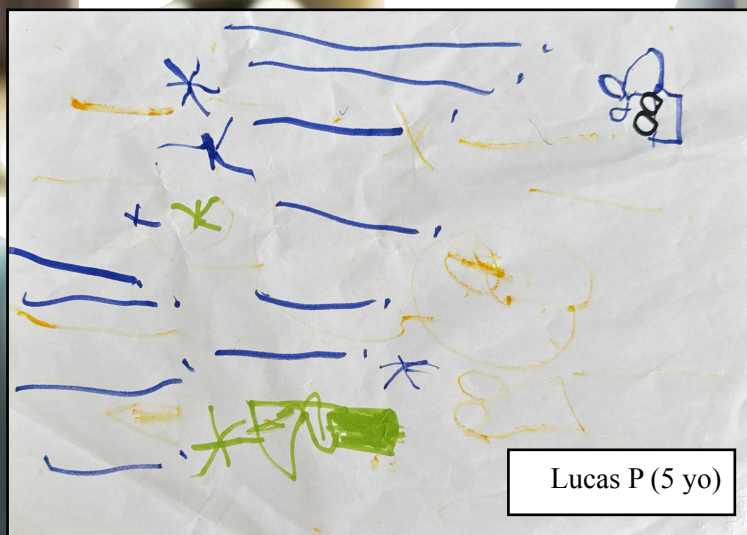
This will be a DROP IN type of meeting for men to have a chat. The only rules are that you cannot talk about sport!

More details in the next issue!

Ian Broughall



Carlo (8 yo)

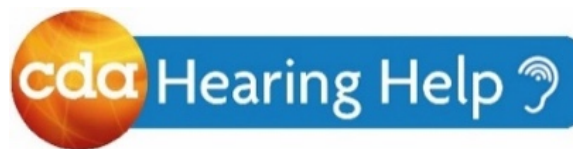


Lucas P (5 yo)

SAXON PARK UPDATE

On 20th November the Parish Council reviewed the suggestions of the Skatepark Working Party regarding which contractor to use to build a brand new concrete skatepark in Bar Hill following the tendering process. If you want to be kept up to date with the progress of the skatepark project, please subscribe to our YouTube channel using the QR code below.





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Dear Residents,

The Parish Council has conducted a survey of the stream running through the village. The results are both encouraging and concerning.

A specialist surveyor carried out an inspection of the waterway to assess the presence of water voles, a protected species under UK law. The results were highly positive - evidence of water voles was recorded throughout all sections of the stream, confirming that the habitat continues to support a healthy and active population.

However, during the course of the inspection, the surveyor also discovered signs of pollution caused by engine oil. This is a serious environmental offence that poses a direct threat to wildlife as well as to the wider ecosystem.

The incident has been reported to the Rural Crime Policing Team and the Environment Agency, who have launched a full investigation to identify those responsible and to assess any environmental impact.

Local residents are reminded that water voles are a legally protected species, and any pollution, disturbance, or damage to their habitat is a criminal offence. The community is encouraged to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity or pollution incidents to the authorities immediately.

This finding highlights both the ecological importance of the Bar Hill stream and the need for continued care and protection of local natural habitats.

For more information please contact the Parish Council clerk directly on **01954 780 456** or via email [**clerk@barhill-pc.gov.uk**](mailto:clerk@barhill-pc.gov.uk).



Join Bar Hill Parish Council!



The Parish Council is looking for **THREE** new Parish Councillors to help make a difference in our community.

If you care about Bar Hill and want to have a say in local decisions, projects, and improvements - we'd love to hear from you!

No experience needed - just enthusiasm and a desire to get involved. Full training provided.



Interested? Contact the Clerk at [**clerk@barhill-pc.gov.uk**](mailto:clerk@barhill-pc.gov.uk) or visit [**www.barhillparishcouncil.gov.uk**](http://www.barhillparishcouncil.gov.uk) for details.

Be part of shaping Bar Hill's future - your community needs your voice!

Dear Editor

I would like to wish residents a Very Happy Christmas & New Year & offer thanks to the Bar Hill Primary School Junior Parish Council for their work Litter Picking around the village.

With best wishes

Cllr Bunty Waters

Dear Editor.

My husband, myself and a friend often go litter picking around the village. We have all noticed that the Tesco's premises are full of litter, some of which has been there for sometime. The litter bins that were once at each exit from Tescos car park have been removed and not replaced.

We were wondering if it would be possible to ask Tesco to comment, hopefully clear the litter and replace the bins please?

Kind regards,

Sandie & Geoff Human

Continued (PTO) ...

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

We meet in the Octagon on the 4th Thursday of the Month, at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

This year with the help of our wonderful volunteers, we raised the amazing sum of £16,952. Many thanks to all our volunteers and to the amazing generosity of all who contributed.

If you would like to contribute to the RBL see here; <https://tinyurl.com/bd8mm8f9>

If you are interested in joining or would like further information or help, please contact either Wendy Arrowsmith on **01954 781381** or Malcolm Cox on **01953 488657**.



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Dear Editor,

It has come to my attention that there are three large developments in the planning stage for the local area. In a recent poll about Cambridge 25 and the Boxworth Gateway, 50% of residents said they didn't want either development, so discovering that there are three developments was a bit of a shock and I thought it could do with being publicised.

I have created a map showing the three developments side by side. Links to the three companies are:

boxworthgateway.co.uk/

www.tritaxbigbox.co.uk/our-spaces/cambridge, and cambridge25.com/

Are these developments an overall positive or negative for Bar Hill? It may be interesting for people to write in to give their thoughts?

Dave Wright



Bar Hill HAPPY HOURS Club

The Bar Hill Happy Hours club meets in the main bar area of the Bar Hill Sports and Social Club between 2 and 4pm on Friday afternoons for tea/coffee and cakes, getting together with friends, fun and games. All of this for only £2 per person. The bar is open if you want something extra.

Coming in December/ January:

5th: To be decided!

12th: Christmas jumper Day, bingo and quiz

15th: Christmas Party and raffle

19th: Bingo and a quiz

26th: NO CLUB

2nd Happy New Year!

9th Bingo and a quiz

Anne Plumb | 07790 306922 |

anne@rwp10.plus.com

8 o'clock club

The club is a women's group and we meet in the school on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm. *Our speaker on the 4th December is a Christmas dinner at the Social Club for members only.*

Our fee is £15 per year to join and then we make a charge at each meeting to cover the cost of refreshments and a raffle.

We welcome new members to the club. If you would like to join please come along to one of our meetings or phone Barbara 204171 (07847 327709) Adela 204265 or Ann 204687

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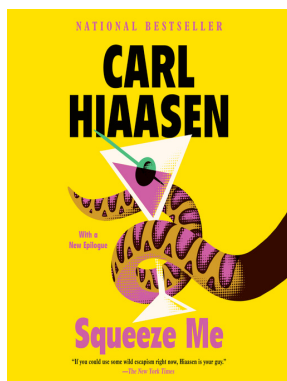
Bar Hill Ladies Book Club

Christmas book meeting on 9th December at 7.30 pm in Julie's home. This month's book is 'Squeeze Me' by Carl Hiaasen.

We are a friendly group of ladies who love to read & share our opinions & thoughts.

Please join us, you will be so welcome.

Please email Julie for more information julie45172@outlook.com.



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Girlguiding
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District

GIRLGUIDING - DECEMBER 2025

Girlguiding is thriving in Bar Hill. We have a Rainbow unit, two Brownie Units and a Guide Unit. Every week girls are engaged in fun activities learning about themselves, their communities and the world around them.

In July 2025 Girlguiding announced the introduction of 72 interest badges! For Rainbows there are 12 new badges (24 in total) including Hobbies, Get Grooving and Great Outdoors. Brownies have 18 new badges (32 in total) including Animal Helper, Kitchen Creations and Mechanic. For Guides there are 24 new badges (48 in total) – examples of these are: Friendship, Clean Planet and Stitcher. Finally the Rangers have 18 new badges (32 in total) including Micro Adventures, My Health and Fandom.

Over the summer one of our Young Leaders was lucky enough to go to Morocco as part of a County trip. Whilst there she met local guides as well taking part in cultural activities.

After the summer break all units have returned with a full programme of activities whether this be learning life skills, celebrating festivals or just having fun! Brownies enjoyed a weekend away on pack holiday with the theme 'The Magic of the Movies'. They had their own Oscar night, movie screening and made Paddingtons and their Name in Lights.

If you are interested in joining Girlguiding as a Rainbow, Brownie or Guide please contact us using the details below.

www.girlguiding.org.uk | barhillguiding@icloud.com

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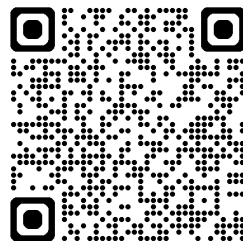
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Bar Hill Church News

Services for December and January may be viewed on our website barhillchurch.org.uk



Christmas at Bar Hill Church

DECEMBER



Sunday 7th

10 am Holy Communion (Anglican)

6 pm Encounter – Informal worship

Wednesday 10th

10 am Midweek Holy Communion

Sunday 14th

10 am Gift and Crib Service

This is a service for all ages. Come along and dress up if you would like to be part of the nativity story (costumes will be provided - unless you have your own!).

Our Gifts - We'll be collecting donations of cash, Amazon vouchers or supermarket vouchers in envelopes marked either Jimmy's or Cambridge Women's Aid.



Sunday 14th

4.00 - 5.00 pm Quiet Christmas

For all who find Christmas a difficult time. A quiet, reflective service with carols and candles.



Sunday 21st

10 am Holy Communion (Reformed)

Sunday 21st

6.30 pm Village Carol Service

With Christmas carols and readings, a candlelit service followed by mince pies and hot drinks.

If you would like to join the music group to sing at the Carol service – please contact
bob.chappell@barhillchurch.org.uk



CHRISTMAS EVE Wednesday 24th

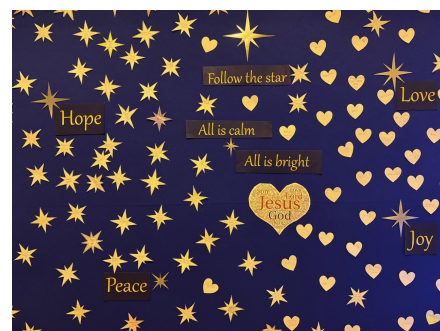
4 pm Christingle Service

A very popular service which begins the countdown to Christmas day. Children and adults love this service and with the lights dimmed, we light our Christingle candles and sing together.



11.15 am Midnight Communion

Including Christmas carols and celebrating the birth of Jesus afterwards with a glass of Prosecco!



CHRISTMAS DAY Thursday 25th

10.00 am Altogether Christmas Day Celebration

A time of worship for all the family as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Contacts

Church Office: Ian Farr, 01954 206120, church.office@barhillchurch.org.uk

Enquiries about hiring space for an event should be directed to Ian

Minister: Revd Wendy Wale, 07780 828865, minister@barhillchurch.org.uk Working days are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday

Website: <https://barhillchurch.org.uk>

Follow us on Facebook: <https://facebook.com/barhillchurch>





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Bar Hill Childminders



Bar Hill Childminders are all graded 'Good' on their latest inspections, are fully insured and hold Paediatric First Aid and Safeguarding training. We are registered with Ofsted and have enhanced CRB checks. We offer quality, caring, home from home care with a wide range of exciting experiences for the children in our care, both in our homes and in the local community.

We regularly go on walks, outings and attend local groups to help the children socialise. We find having a wide range of ages benefits all the children in our care, it helps the younger children's confidence and encourages the older children to be patient and understanding with the younger children, helping them learn and progress.

We accept all Government funding for eligible parents and the Government Tax Free Childcare payments.

As we are busy during the day with the children, please text us your enquiry with details of your requirements and we will contact you as soon as possible with our up to date availability and hourly rates.

Jacky – 07718447998 – ages 6 months upwards. Term time only and all year round care offered.

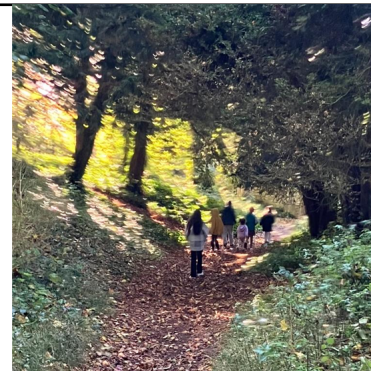
Kirsten - 07906218070 – ages 6 months upwards. Term time only and all year round care offered. No spaces available.



We have had lots of adventures during half term, we visited Anglesey Abbey, Wimpole Farm, Wandlebury country park, and Partyman world.

We were also lucky

enough to visit St Neots fire station where the children experienced using the water hoses, sitting in the fire engine and finding out about all the firefighters



equipment. In November we started planning for advent. At our weekly childminding group we made pretty firework pictures for our display board in the Meetings Room. We had lots of lovely local walks in the sunshine collecting the fallen leaves and crunching through them. We also had lots of fun splashing in the puddles after the rain! During November we took part in Nursery Rhyme week where we learnt some new rhymes and did lots of dancing with our musical instruments. Road Safety week saw us practising how to be safe near and crossing the roads. For Children in Need on the 14th November we joined in with this years theme of 25 by decorating a giant number 25. Celebrations in other countries and some that our families celebrate meant we celebrated Thanksgiving on the 27th November. We thought about what we are grateful for and wrote it on a pumpkin. We also joined the school in donating pyjamas to children who are having to spend Christmas in hospital and we'd like to thank our families for supporting us and donating. We're looking forward to Christmas and all the exciting crafts and activities to create and share with our families.



BAR HILL DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Bunty Waters - bunty.waters@scambs.gov.uk

01954 201421/ 07734 690580



Welcome if you are new to the village, meet me in the HUB on Monday mornings for a coffee, you can contact me if I can help in any way or you would like more information.

CHRISTMAS MARKET

The Bar Hill Christmas Market is on 6th December. The fourth annual indoor Christmas Market hosted by South Cambridgeshire District Council is returning to Cambourne Village College, taking place on Sunday 7 December. Free event 11 – 3pm

RE-APPLY FOR POSTAL VOTES

If you have received a letter or email from South Cambs and you wish to continue to vote by post, you must make a new application as soon as possible. Your postal vote will be removed if you don't make a new application. Affected voters can apply online now at www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote and any questions elections@scambs.gov.uk

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Register for a collection at www.arhc.org.uk/tree-recycling Arthur Rank hospice charity has a team of volunteers who will collect your real Christmas tree in January. Trees are chipped and used for mulch.

PLANNING & WASTE SERVICES

Visit greatercambridgeplanning.org and greatercambridgewaste.org and see what is there. The websites should make your day-to-day interactions with local services quicker, easier & more informative.

SETTING UP A FOOD BUSINESS

If you are planning to open a new food business, or take over an existing food business as the new owner, you will need to register the business with South Cambs.

You should register within 28 days before you begin trading. Registrations that are more than 28 days in advance will be rejected and asked to reapply nearer the trading date.

Once you are registered the Council will likely undertake an unannounced food hygiene inspection to assess your compliance with food safety legislation.

There may be a delay between when you submitted the food registration form and when the officer visits the premises, however you can start to trade.

You must make sure that you are meeting the appropriate standards of food hygiene and food safety. Please have all the required documentation in place before you start to produce food for your business. A Safer Food Better Business Pack can be downloaded free of charge from the Food Standards Agency (FSA) website.



Help! We're Missing Something

Maybe it's an article by a group you support? A bit of local news? Or even details of an event? Let us know! Deadline for our January issue is **Thursday 4th December**.



WILLINGHAM JAZZ CLUB

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12:30 pm- 3:30 pm

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It has been exactly one year since Bar Hill Preschool CIO opened its doors in its new charity status. On the 4th of November, we held our Annual General Meeting followed by our Committee Meeting. Officers have been appointed to fill the committee roles within the organisation. Thank you to all members for your continuous support.

As we rolled into November, our activities were focused on fireworks and autumn.

The children enjoyed observing insects and minibeasts in the garden and have recalled fireworks they had seen by making amazing colourful drawings. They also learnt new descriptive words such as “pop”, “bang”, and “whiz” while having fun with colours and patterns.

For Remembrance Day, 11th November, the children were making Poppies that we put into our window display, and we have been walking to the local remembrance garden

together to place our wooden cross among the poppy wreaths.

It was also National Nursery Rhyme Week, world-wide initiative celebrating the importance of nursery rhymes in young children,. During this week, we have been learning to sign a new nursery rhyme each day, starting with Sing a Song of Sixpence followed by Humpty Dumpty and many others like When I was one, I played the drum, I hear Thunder and finished with Two Little Dickie Birds.

The Preschool was also supporting ‘Children in Need’ and therefore, invited children and staff to wear their Pudsey outfits on a Friday.

The following week is Maths week and Road safety week so lots of activities around simple counting skills and practising our green cross code.

The Preschool welcomes all children aged from the age of two to school age. We are open 8.30 am-3 pm Monday to Friday term time. Why not contact us for a visit?

We accept 2,3,4-year-old funding and also are part of the national savings childcare scheme. See our website for more details or call **01954 782892** for an application form.

Hedgehog Fact: Young hedgehogs are called hoglets. They’re born blind, pink, and with soft white spines that harden within a few hours.



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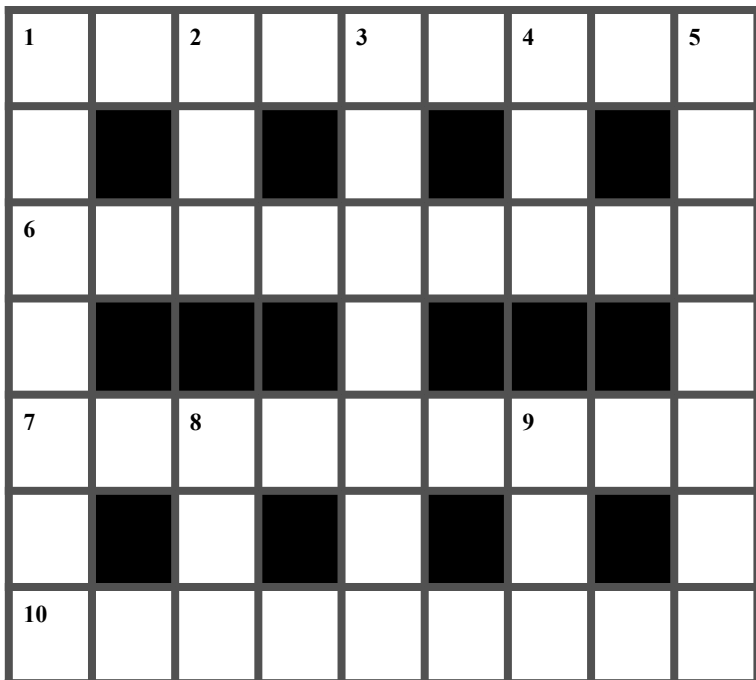


NEW SATURDAY LUNCH CLUB

Welcoming all residents of Over and surrounding villages to join us for lunch at the Day Centre on the fourth Saturday of each month, service starting at 12:30 following the Memory Café

to book your place or for more information visit our website
www.overdaycentre.co.uk/whats-on/saturday-lunch-club/
 by email: saturdaylunchclub@overdaycentre.co.uk
 or please call: 01954 231807 or 07710 694900

our next lunch is on
 Saturday, January 24



PUZZLE for DECEMBER 2025

Across: 1.greeting on 25th-Happy—, 6,still current, 7,in bits, 10.Angels in—3—6—of glory, and **Down:** 1.buttered, toasted snack, 2.caviar etc, 3.creamy chicken recipe, 4.La — (Debussy), 5.seat for horseback, 8.day before,

23

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BAR HILL BIN COLLECTION DATES

DATE (Thursday unless notified)	BLACK BIN	BLUE BIN	GREEN BIN
4th December	✓		
11th December		✓	✓
18th December	✓		
MONDAY 22nd December		✓ only	No
FRIDAY 2nd January	✓		
8th January		✓ only	✓
15th January	✓		

You can also add Bin Collection dates to your mobile/ tablet computer for automatic reminders!



This website address will take you to the correct page on the Greater Cambridge website.

www.greatercambridgewaste.org/find-your-household-bin-collection-day

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SOMETHING TO ASPIRE TO...

Visiting the US recently, we played on several outdoor pickleball courts and were impressed by the quality of provision and the wide range of folks participating. We're keen to increase participation in Bar Hill by all ages and abilities.

TAKE CARE...

We are currently seeking funding to resurface our ageing courts as the surface is breaking up in places leaving loose gravel on the surface. So anyone playing should take care, and particularly check that the courts are suitable for play after rain.

OCCASIONAL PAY & PLAY GAMES

You can book a game on our website using the tennis nets and your own equipment.

CLUB TIMES

Our Adult Club nights for social tennis are Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 6.30 pm.

Our Adult Club times for pickleball are Monday evenings starting at 5.00 pm, and Friday mornings at 10.00 am.

MEMBERSHIP NOW AVAILABLE

Half-year club membership runs from September to March and is now available from the website. Membership covers both tennis and pickleball and you can be part of the WhatsApp groups for either or both sports which give info about what's happening. You can apply on our website.

CONTACT

Paul Chubbuck |

chair@barhilltennisclub.co.uk

Richard Lewney |

secretary@barhilltennisclub.co.uk

Ian Foot |

treasurer@barhilltennisclub.co.uk



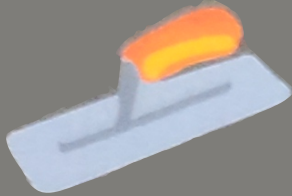
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20 ★★★★★ REVIEWS

Wildlife-Friendly Gardening in December

December might feel like a quiet month in the garden, but for wildlife it can be one of the hardest. As frost settles and food becomes scarce, your garden can become a real sanctuary.

A quiet, undisturbed corner with a pile of leaves makes perfect a winter shelter for wildlife.

🐦 **Feed the birds** – Birds burn a lot of energy staying warm. Fill feeders with high-energy foods like sunflower hearts, fat balls, and peanuts. Keep them clean and topped up, and don't forget a bird bath – even icy water helps.

🍂 **Leave it a little messy** – Resist the urge to over-tidy. Seed heads, fallen leaves, and dead stems provide shelter for insects and seeds for birds. A log pile or two will be appreciated by beetles and hibernating frogs.

🌸 **Plan ahead** – Now's the time to think about next year's wildlife planting. Native shrubs such as hawthorn, holly, and dogwood offer berries and shelter, while spring bulbs like crocus and snowdrops will give early pollinators a vital boost.

Even the smallest garden-or a few pots on a patio-can make a difference. A little thought now helps wildlife through the coldest months and ensures a thriving, nature-filled garden come spring.

I attach a photo of Little Mabel a hedgehog that will be overwintered in our hospital. She's too small to put enough weight on to survive.



Helping Hedgehogs in December

As December arrives and temperatures drop, hedgehogs should be settling down to hibernate - but not all of them manage to do so safely. Some may still be wandering about, searching for food or the right nesting spot.

If you spot a hedgehog out this month, it might need a little help. Leave out a shallow dish of fresh water and a small amount of meaty cat or dog food, kitten biscuits(not milk or bread) If the hedgehog looks small, wobbly, or out in the daytime, contact : Shepreth Hedgehog Hospital: **07947 361187/ Liz Dams: 07912 988898** for help and advice - it will need expert care to survive the winter.

You can make your garden hedgehog-friendly by leaving a wild corner with fallen leaves, logs, and twigs for nesting. Avoid tidying too much, and always check compost heaps or bonfires before lighting them.

A bit of kindness and care this December can make all the difference. With our help, hedgehogs can stay safe and snug through winter - and be ready to snuffle happily through our gardens again in Spring.



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BAR HILL LIBRARY - December

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting the library by attending our regular pop-up library sessions at the Village Hall during our closure for refurbishment.



This work has involved the installation of a new heating system, replacement of windows and general refurbishment. We hope to be open fully early in the new year, if not before.

Once we re-open, our regular services will be available again. In addition to the loan of books, this involves use of our computers along with printing/photocopying and scanning services. We will also be running our usual sessions such as weekly rhymetimes, monthly storytimes, craft sessions and much more.

Please see below for the Cambridgeshire Libraries' Christmas opening hours:

- All Cambridgeshire Libraries will close at 1pm on 24 December.
- All libraries except Cambridge Central and libraries with Open+ facilities will be closed between 25 and 26 December and 1 January.
- Normal opening hours will resume on 2 January.

Cambridge Central and the Open+ service at Histon, March, Soham, Rock Road and St Ives libraries will operate as follows between 27 and 31 December:

	Sat 27 Dec	Sun 28 Dec	Mon 29 Dec	Tue 30 Dec	Wed 31 Dec
Cambridge Central	10am-5pm	12-4pm	9.30am-5pm	9.30am-5pm	9.30am-5pm
Open+ Histon, March, Rock Road, Soham, St Ives	10am-4pm	10am-4pm	10am-4pm	10am-4pm	10am-4pm

Loan periods will automatically be extended to cover the longer break.

Comberton Ramblers

Join our friendly group for wonderful walks

Comberton Ramblers walk alternative Sundays between 5-7 miles.

The original concept of the club hasn't changed since 1974, it is to encourage people to take a walk in their local

countryside, enjoy a social chat, and at the

same time learn a little about the local flora and fauna, but all in a friendly atmosphere.

You are welcome to join us on any two of our walks to see if our group is for you. Then, once you have enjoyed the views, fun, exhilaration, it is just a case of becoming a member.

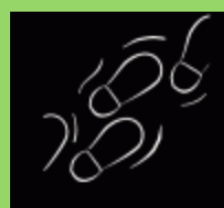
Annual membership fee is £10.00 per person.

No dogs are allowed except assistance dogs.

For further information please contact me stella.hardwicke2274@hotmail.com or 01954 210049 (mobile 07930 951703).

Stella – Secretary

<https://combertonramblers.org.uk>



COMBERTON RAMBLERS

A School Street for Bar Hill

We're thrilled to announce plans for a new School Street in Bar Hill: a scheme designed to make the area outside of the school safer and more welcoming for children and families during drop-off and pick-up times.

A School Street temporarily improves the environment outside the school gates at the beginning and end of the school day, creating a dedicated zone for walking, cycling, and scooting. It's all about encouraging active travel and improving air quality while making the school run less stressful and more enjoyable.

Join us at one of our upcoming engagement sessions to drop in, learn more, ask questions, and share your views:

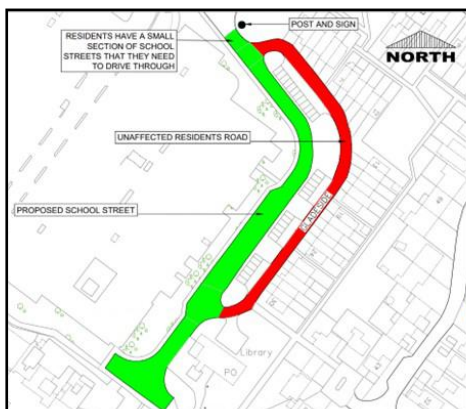
- **4th Dec –
Bar Hill
School,
3:15 - 5:00
pm**

For full details of the scheme, visit the

Cambridgeshire County Council website.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/school-streets>

The scheme will be volunteer run, if you are able to volunteer, please let us know at an engagement session or contact the school.



Bar Hill News - Digital Copy

On (or around) the 1st of the month we send out a link to this month's digital copy. If you'd like to receive it please complete this form.

<https://bit.ly/bhn-digital>



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Do you struggle with your child's bedtime?

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Monday & Wednesday 9am - 11am



Bar Hill Day Nursery and Out of School Club

www.buttercupschildcareltd.co.uk

Bar Hill Day Nursery is based in Gladeside, Bar Hill. We are open 7.30am – 6pm, Monday to Friday, 50 weeks per year. We have spaces year-round or term-time for children aged 4 months to 4 years. Please contact the Nursery for more information or to arrange a visit. **Phone: 01954 488081 Email:**

info@buttercupschildcareltd.co.uk

Bar Hill Out of School Club is based in the building next to Bar Hill Primary School. We offer Before and After School care and Holiday Club for Primary aged children. We are open 7.30am – 8.45am, 3pm – 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am – 6pm during school holidays. For more information or to make a booking please contact the Out of School Club: **Phone 01954 200814 Email: oosc@buttercupschildcareltd.co.uk**



Tritax Park Cambridge is a proposed new logistics and advanced manufacturing park planned for land north of Bar Hill, near Junction 25 of the A14.

The development aims to create a large logistics and manufacturing hub, with the first phase already having a pre-let for a significant portion of its space. The project involves developing multiple industrial units and is in the process of consulting with local residents.

The consultation came to Bar Hill on Friday the 14th November (just before this issue went to press).



If you weren't able to attend you can find information on the park and the consultation on their website;
<https://www.tritaxbigbox.co.uk/our-spaces/cambridge>

WHY IS TRITAX PARK NEEDED?



Currently no available units over 100,000 sq ft in Greater Cambridgeshire.



Estimated 13.3 million sq ft of unsatisfied requirements for large-scale industrial and logistics space (>100,000 sq ft).



The A14 continues to serve as a key logistics and industrial corridor, supporting regional and national connectivity.



Many industrial estates have been repurposed for housing, offices, or laboratory uses, reducing available industrial land.



Remaining older industrial sites tend to be small, constrained, and outdated, limiting their suitability for modern, energy-efficient, large-scale operations.

Bar Hill Village Hall

The large Main Hall has multi-purpose vinyl flooring, making it flexible for all types of events. There is a kitchen alongside the Hall with a serving hatch, making it useful for self-catering at parties, discos and the like. The licensed bar can be booked on request and will be serviced by the Sports and Social Club. The Hall opens out onto a large patio area that is ideal for external activities or a spill-over for internal events and has two bolted gates that lead off the premises.

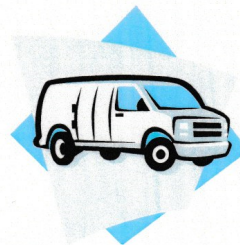
There is also a Meeting Room, with its own independent access and great for meetings of up to 10 people.

The Village Hall is managed as a registered charity (number 1002579). To book, please visit our web site barhillvillagehall.com and email enquiries@barhillvillagehall.com to confirm arrangements.

Alternatively, call **01954 782414** and leave a message. We aim to return calls within 24hours (Monday to Friday).

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Saturday, February 28
Saturday, March 28

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Saturday, January 10
Saturday, February 14
Saturday, March 14

*Willingham
Memory Box Café*

Invites people living with memory loss (from any cause) and their carers to
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from 10 am to 12 noon

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We wish all our customers and supporters an enjoyable winter and run up to Christmas celebrations with the family



With your help we are raising money to make the Rosie a more comfortable environment for mothers and babies. So far in 2025, with your help, we have raised £600.

Our next in person stalls are at; *Longstanton Community Market* on Saturday 29th November. New time 12pm to 3pm Usual spot on the village green, *Bar Hill Community Market* on Saturday 6th December 2pm to 6pm in the Church Octagon, *South Cambs Indoor Christmas market* on Sunday 7th December 10am to 4pm Cambourne Village College, and finally *Waterbeach Community Market* on Sunday 21st December from 10am to 3pm at the Old Barracks

Avril Williams | **07493 692 010**
avril@rosieinstitches.org.uk
 and Jo Hall | **01954 780 304**

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Update on Palliative Care Beds

Over the past month, I have received countless messages from constituents concerned about cuts to funding at our local Arthur Rank Hospice.

Having written to the Secretary of State, Wes Streeting, alongside my Cambridgeshire Liberal Democrat colleagues, Charlotte Cane and Pippa Heylings, and visited the hospice itself, we then launched a petition to show the Government just how much the service means to people locally. Our petition gained over 10,000 signatures in its first 24 hours, and at the time of writing that number now sits at over 16,000.

On the 3rd of November, I joined my constituent Vivien from Fen Drayton, whose husband was supported by Arthur Rank before he died from a rare cancer in November 2024, to deliver the petition to 10 Downing Street. We called on the Prime Minister to restore the funding to ensure all 23 beds at Arthur Rank remain open; to provide long-term, sustainable funding for the hospice's palliative care services; and to properly roll out nationally the move from

hospital to community care, with hospices and GPs at its heart.

Thank you to everyone who signed the petition and continues to support our campaign – I will continue to share any updates on my social media pages.

International Baccalaureate Cuts

In late October, we heard news that funding would be pulled for the Large Programme Uplift from 2026, which funds the International Baccalaureate Diploma provision at 20 state schools across the country, including Impington Village College. At a time when the Government was conducting a major review of the curriculum (which has now been published) and has spent much time touting its plans for a “broad and balanced” curriculum, there is a heavy and disappointing irony in its decision to cut funding for one of the broadest curriculum choices a young person can choose.

I visited Impington Village College recently, and they reassured me that they are absolutely committed to continuing to offer the IB after 30 years of excellence, but the loss of £2,400 per student will require difficult decisions about staffing, class sizes, and the breadth of subjects they can offer in the Diploma Programme.

I have raised this multiple times with the Government – writing to the Secretary of State for Education and challenging Education ministers in Parliament at a debate and in Oral Questions. I will continue to do my utmost to press the government to reverse this funding cut, and I will keep staff, students and parents informed of how things develop.



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nhwinbarhill@yahoo.co.uk

To keep up to date on the latest developments
please join us on facebook: [bit.ly/
FBBarHillNHW](https://bit.ly/FBBarHillNHW) (or search for "Bar hill
NHW")

Remembrance Day 2025

The Royal British Legion plays a vital role in ensuring that the sacrifices made by the men and women of our Armed Forces are never forgotten. This year's wreath-laying service, led by Reverend Wendy Wale and Mr Malcolm Cox, offered a time of reflection and prayers. Mr Steve Gibson, served as flag bearer.

The Legion continues to support veterans, service personnel, and their families, offering financial assistance, emotional guidance, and community support to ensure that the legacy of bravery and service endures.



We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who attended today's event, including representatives from Bar Hill Parish Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, the Bar Hill Community Association, the Girl Guides, Scouts, and many other local organisations and businesses.

The Legion relies on volunteers to continue its vital work. If you would like to help - whether through events, fundraising, or supporting veterans - please consider joining!

For further information about the Royal British Legion or joining the Bar Hill Branch, please contact either Wendy Arrowsmith (**01954 781381**) or Malcolm Cox (**01954 488657**).



Remembrance Day

Children from the local uniformed organisations created this wonderful Poppy masterpiece, which is now on display at Bar Hill Church.

Our School Council visited the memorial in Bar Hill to see the School Wreath that was laid at the recent Remembrance service.

We have also been raising money for the Royal British Legion by selling poppies and poppy merchandise. Thank you to all our families for supporting such a worthy cause.

We ended the day with an assembly led by our Bar Hill Reverend, Wendy Wale.



Junior Parish Council Update

The Junior Parish Council visited the PC offices this week to learn where the full PC meet. They have also been active in the community and would like to extend a big thank you to all the local businesses who have kindly agreed to host a Red Cross charity collection tin. Our goal is to bring our community together in support of a great cause.

You can find collection tins at the school, The Works, the vets, doctors' surgery, Specsavers, salon and school office. If you

are a local business and would like to host an additional collection tin, please contact the Parish Clerk for more details.

We are also looking for volunteers to support both our School Streets initiative



and our Youth Group. If you're interested in getting involved, please contact clerk@barhill-pc.gov.uk - your help would be greatly appreciated!

Junior Travel Ambassadors (JTA)

Our JTA's have presented their first awards of the half term!

Rover the Bear was awarded to: Noah in Reception. The JTA team were impressed by his commitment to walking to school every day, a brilliant example of the active travel we're encouraging across the school.

The Active Travel Trophy was awarded to Mrs Honey for her dedication to cycling to school daily. A fantastic role model for sustainable and healthy travel!

This half term, the JTA will be leading an assembly focused on road safety, the benefits of active travel and responsible parking around the school.

We're proud of the efforts being made and look forward to seeing even more of our school community get involved!

Bar Hill Church Knit & Natter

“Knit & Natter” is a well established group in Bar Hill for ladies of any age who like to knit with others in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

We meet every Thursday afternoon from 1.15 in The Octagon opposite The Doctors Surgery. The Octagon is the smaller building next to Bar Hill Church.

As part of our afternoon activities we encourage everyone who wishes to do, to take part in a few fun and vital short keep fit exercises to boost their physical and mental health.

Our main feature is the creation of many wonderful knitted items which are given to local charities who need our help. This can be baby clothes, warm adult knitted items and Lap blankets in the winter for local people. We have established contacts with local charities who are delighted to receive our “knitted treasures”

Possibly one of the most important features of the group is that all are welcome and are encouraged and enabled to meet new friends while sharing a pleasurable mutual interest. This might be a good starter if you are new to the village to find new friends and re-start a previous hobby

Then, of course, there is Tea time accompanied of course with a welcome selection of cakes.

As well as our weekly meetings, we hold other events in the year. We enjoy outings to the seaside and occasionally, a winter shopping trip. We also have a couple of Craft Days to explore more creative activities. Also a Garden Party in the summer.

We would be delighted to welcome you to our group and I will be happy to talk more about it if you are not sure if it is right for you.

Hope to see you there.

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Foster Carers Needed in Bar Hill

You can help make a positive difference in a child's life. Nexus Fostering is calling for compassionate, dedicated people in Bar Hill and the surrounding areas to become foster carers. Every day, children and young people need safe, supportive homes where they can feel valued, understood, and cared for - and that's where you come in.



At Nexus Fostering, we're proud to be part of your local community. Our local office, located at 3 Hazlewell Court, Bar Road, Lolworth, Cambridge, CB23 8DS, is home to a friendly team of experienced local staff who understand the challenges and rewards of fostering. We're not a distant organisation, we're your neighbours, here to support you every step of the way.

When you foster with us, you'll never feel alone. We provide round-the-clock support, ongoing training, and regular visits from our team to ensure you feel confident and equipped in your role. Our fostering community is close-knit and welcoming, offering opportunities to meet other carers, share experiences, attend local events and build lasting connections.

To help you learn more, Nexus Fostering hosts free fostering information events every month at our local office, and these are taking place on:

- Wednesday 17th December - 11am-12pm



- Friday 9th January – 2-3pm
- Wednesday 4th February – 12-1pm
- Tuesday 17th March – 1-2pm

These relaxed sessions are a great opportunity to meet our team and ask questions. To keep up to date with additional event dates please visit

www.nexusfostering.co.uk

Whether you're single, married, renting, or own your home, fostering could be for you. What matters most is your ability to offer stability, patience, and care for children across Cambridgeshire.

When you're ready to open your heart and home, call our office on **01223 903 503** to find out more and start your fostering journey with Nexus Fostering.



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BAR HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Office, Hanover Close, Bar Hill. CB23 8EH

Chairperson: bunty.waters@barhill-pc.gov.uk



Fly Tipping: Please can residents not Fly Tip their rubbish as this involves a considerable cost (£120) to residents and comes out of the precept.

Play Park: Please can adults NOT use the play equipment in the new play park this is to stop equipment breaking and wearing.

Nature Reserve

Unfortunately, the planned Nature Reserve Volunteer Day on Saturday 15th November 2025 had to be cancelled due to the severe weather warning.

We're looking to reschedule the event for February or March 2026, when conditions will be better for carrying out the maintenance and care work needed around the reserve.

Thank you to everyone who planned to join us - your enthusiasm and support mean a lot! We'll share the new date as soon as it's confirmed.

New Youth Club

The Junior Parish Council is working hard on several exciting projects, and one of the most important initiatives currently underway is the development of a brand-new youth club for our local community.

To help bring this idea to life, we're looking for adult volunteers who can offer some of their time to support the club. Whether you can help regularly or just occasionally, your time and enthusiasm would make a huge difference to the young people involved.

If you're interested in getting involved, please let Miss Frampton know by emailing office@barhillprimary.org. She will ensure

your details are passed on to the right people.

Removal of Trees in the Horseshoe

Unfortunately, the Poplar trees in the Horseshoe will need to be removed. This decision follows expert advice from Haydens and the findings of the recent tree survey.

The Parish Council is always reluctant to remove trees, but these Poplars have been badly affected by Hornet Moth and are showing serious signs of drought stress. They are losing leaves early, their crowns have become sparse, and many branches have died back. It also seems that the trees are struggling to access enough water during dry summer months.

Because the Horseshoe is a popular and well-used area, removing these trees is important to ensure everyone's safety.

The Parish Council will ensure that any replacement planting is carefully considered to maintain the character and beauty of the area for years to come.

Litter Picking

A big thank you to all those that take time to pick litter around the village and a massive thank you to the Junior Parish Council for their recent big litter pick.

COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Full Council Meeting

18 December 2025 - 7pm
in the Parish Council
Office



Cinderella



The Panto Written & Directed by S.M Fearon
Performed by Swavesey Radsoc

TICKETS
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Swavesey Village College, January 23rd, 24th and 25th
Tickets on sale December 1st!
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Zoe (7 yo)



Angel Trees

LET AN ANGEL CARRY THE NAME OF YOUR LOVED ONE AT CHRISTMAS TIME



Angels may be collected from the Doctors' Surgery reception, the Hub, or the Church building when any of them are open.

Write your loved ones name with the indelible pens provided

Hang an angel on one of the Angel trees or bushes in the memorial garden as you remember someone.

Angels will be in place from 1st-31st December, when they will be removed, and each person prayed for.

www.barhillchurch.org.uk

We are pleased to confirm we have recently recruited an additional member to the reception team who joins us at the end of November. Both of our new Practice Nurses are settling in well and we are at full compliment of staff across all roles within the surgery.

Upcoming closure days for training:

- Thursday 15th January (2pm to 6pm)
- Tuesday 17th February (2pm to 6pm)

Flu and Covid vaccinations

We undertook a successful Saturday flu and Covid vaccination clinic at the start of October, where we managed to provide 190 flu vaccines and 108 Covid vaccines.

We would like to extend our thanks to all PPG members who were kind enough to give up some of their valuable time on a breezy Saturday morning to support the clinical staff by providing logistics support.

We currently have some flu vaccine available for anyone who is eligible. If you know anyone who is looking to be vaccinated, please point them in our direction.

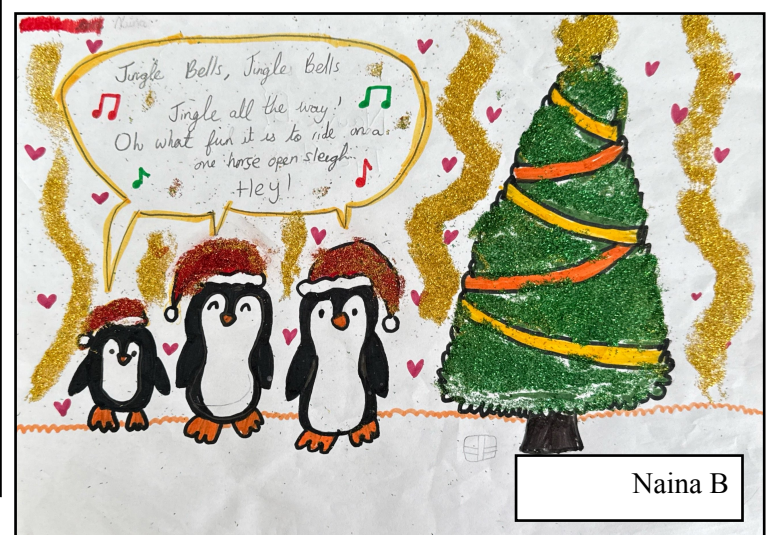
Refurbishment Works

The day for the arrival of the contractors on site is now looming large!

We are delighted to confirm that after two years of discussions and appeals we have secured funding to fully refurbish the surgery. This is an extensive refurbishment which includes all clinical rooms, patient, and administrative areas, and will be a large transformation of the surgery.

We have a 'provisional' start date from the contractors of Monday 8th December 2025, (we shall publish confirmed dates on the surgery website /noticeboards and Surgery Facebook page as soon as confirmed).

The works are planned to take 16-18 weeks. During this time the surgery will remain fully open and functioning, although there may be periods of time where you will be required to use alternative reception / patient waiting areas and entry doors. We will endeavour to keep any building disruption to a minimum, but please bear with us during this time.



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XMAS DAY	12:00-14:00	-
BOXING DAY	14:00-00:00	-
SAT 27TH DEC	12:00-00:00	16:00-21:00
SUN 28TH DEC	12:00-22:00	-
MON 29TH DEC	16:00-21:00	-
TUES 30TH DEC	16:00-22:30	14:00-19:00
NEW YEAR'S EVE	12:00-1:00	-
NEW YEAR'S DAY	12:00-20:00	-
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Nika D



Weekly playgroup sessions for babies and preschool children

A range of toys and play equipment with fun activities including crafts, singing, sensory play and story time

Thursday Morning 9:45-11:15am*
at the Octagon, Bar Hill

*term time only

Taster session Free, Further sessions - under 1 £2, over 1 £3, 2 or more children £4 refreshments and snacks included

We look forward to seeing you at our next session

BHCA LEGO LEAGUE

The children of Bar Hill are well underway with their brand new Lego League, and after an initial introduction session, where they all received their badges for their weekly sessions, they soon began building the first of their interactive Lego models.

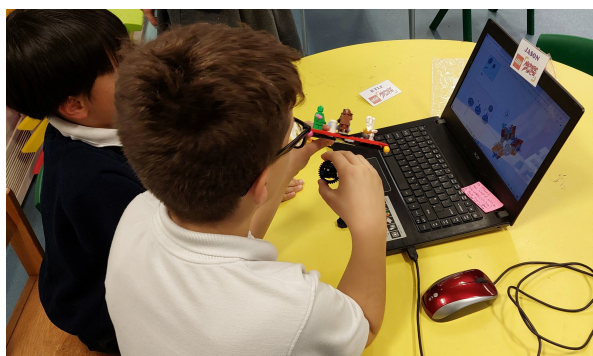
In the next session they will be viewing the Robot



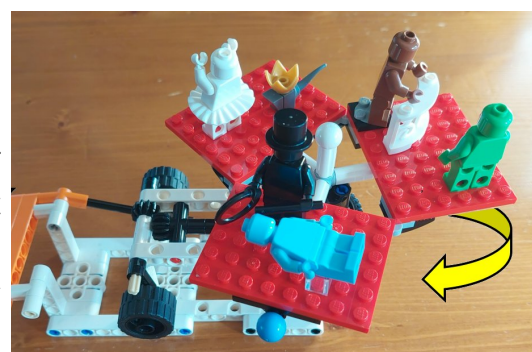
Game Challenges, from which they will be selecting the various models they will program their robots to activate. Then they will be starting on their project work investigating a particular issue and devising their own solutions ready to present on

Finals Day, which is provisionally set for 7th March 2026 (in the Village Hall), when the children will be wearing their own designed t-shirts, and presenting their project work, so get the date in your diary, as you do not want to miss out on what promises to be an exciting day.

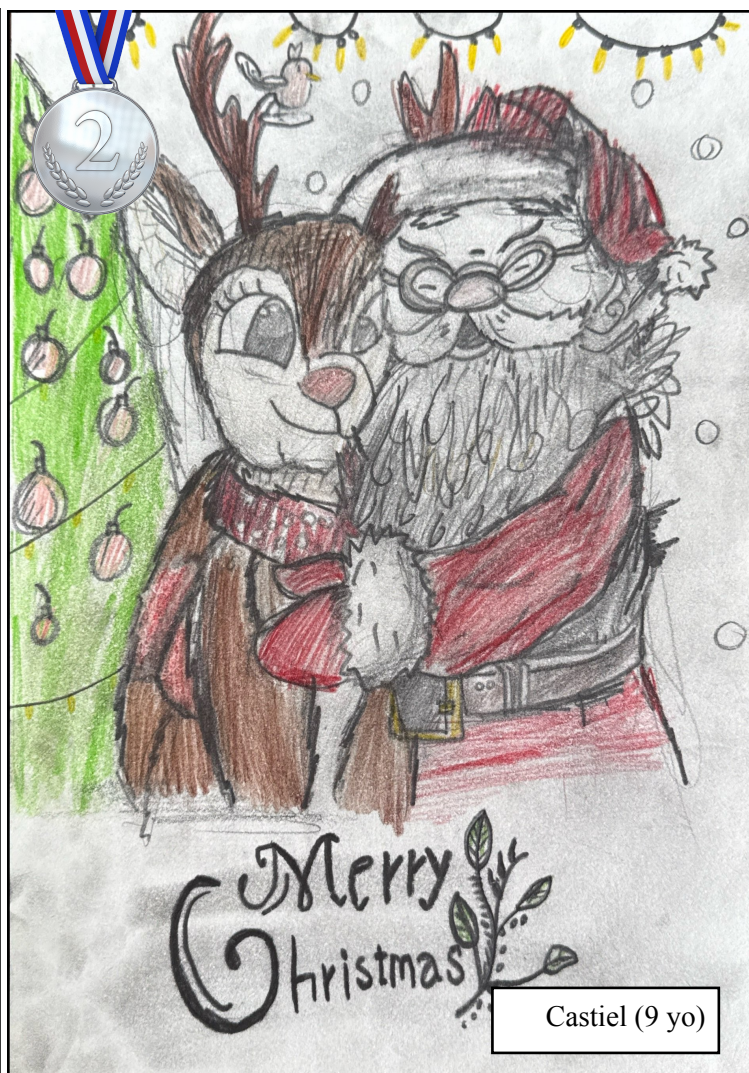
You can now follow the BHCA Lego League on their very own website: <https://fil.barhill-ca.org/>



*Here the children are working together to construct Model 2 for Challenge number 2, which will rotate 120 degrees each time, (if they can program their robot correctly), to press down on the **ORANGE** bar*



Luca (7 yo)



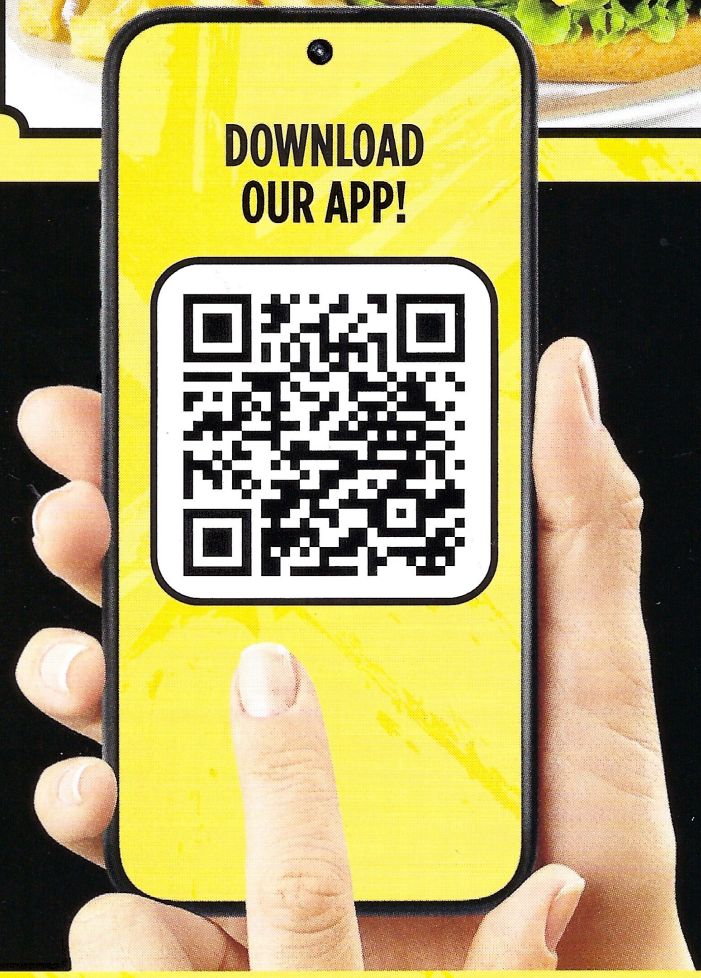
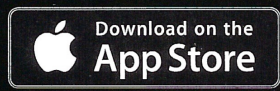
Castiel (9 yo)



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